

Benson Community Preschool



The Youth Hall, Oxford Road, Benson, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, OX10 6LX

Inspection date	23 April 2015
Previous inspection date	15 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children thrive as their emotional well-being is supported by staff who take the time to understand their individual needs.
- The quality of teaching is good. Staff plan interesting activities that help children remain engaged and motivated in their learning. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Staff support children's language well. They use a variety of techniques to support language development, such as effective questioning, to get children to speak in full sentences and develop a wider vocabulary.
- Staff have close working relationships with parents and communicate with them in a variety of ways. This means parents are well informed of their children's progress and how to support learning at home.
- The manager reflects on the strengths and the areas to develop within the setting. She has empowered staff to implement new ideas, and this helps ensure the pre-school is constantly improving.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not always maximise opportunities for children to develop literacy skills when playing outdoors; for example, by making the outdoor environment rich in examples of print.
- Children are reliant on activities and resources provided by adults as they play outdoors. This limits their independence and freedom to develop their own play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- support children's literacy skills further by making the environment richer in print; for example, by using names, signs and labels outdoors
- support children to be more independent and make choices about their outdoor play by organising resources so that children can select from them more freely.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children at free play and in group times and staff interactions with them.
- The inspector sampled documents including policies, registers and records of children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents and carers and took into account their views.
- The inspector spoke with the manager, members of the committee, staff and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and manager conducted a joint observation.

Inspector

Natasha Crellin

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. Staff plan activities that reflect their interests, which ensures they are motivated and enthusiastic learners. Children develop literacy skills as adults help them identify sounds in words and share stories as they sit in a cosy book corner. Children show close relationships to staff, as they lean into them and they enjoy each other's company. Children have fewer opportunities to read outside however as there are no books and only limited print in the garden. Children develop mathematical understanding as, for example, they find toys of various colours to sort into matching groups on the parachute. They count the quantity in each group, and learn to sort according to colour. This activity supports their physical development as they run around vigorously to find the toys. Children enjoy a range of organised activities outdoors, such as, 'What's the time Mr Wolf?' However, there are fewer opportunities for children to freely select resources and develop their own play ideas while outdoors.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff work well together to create a friendly and welcoming pre-school. The key person system ensures children receive consistent care. Familiar adults understand each child's needs. This helps children to settle quickly and they soon develop a good understanding of the routine and expectations. They are happy and well behaved and staff are good role models and make calm and clear explanations about their expectations. For example, staff remind children not to run inside, as they may fall and hurt themselves. They use stories, such as the 'Hare and the tortoise' fable, to reinforce safety messages and help children develop a good understanding of how to keep safe. The pre-school works closely with other agencies, such as the local authority and the speech and language therapy service. Consequently, children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported and make good progress. The pre-school also enjoys close working relationships with the local school, which ensures children's move to school is well supported.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The manager tracks the children's progress, which allows her to identify and address gaps in learning. It also helps her to monitor the learning and development requirements and ensure children access a broad and balanced curriculum. Children's safety is a priority for staff. Staff follow robust health and safety routines daily, and managers implement thorough procedures to ensure the suitability of staff. Managers supervise staff well and provide regular opportunities for staff to develop their interests through training. They have recently focused on developing mathematics in all areas of the provision, which has had a positive impact on children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	134300
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	841053
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	Benson Community Preschool Committee
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2011
Telephone number	01491 824042

Benson Community Pre-School registered in 1984. It is located in the village of Benson, Oxfordshire. It opens weekdays in school term times only. Sessions run from 9am to 12 noon on Monday and Friday and 9am to 3pm on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. The pre-school receives funding to provide early education to children aged two, three- and four-years of age. There are six members of staff and all hold appropriate early years qualifications. The manager holds Qualified Teacher Status and Early Years Professional Status, and one other staff member holds Early Years Teacher Status.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

